Filing of frivolous Public Interest Litigations

818. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court in a series of judgements had deprecated the growing tendency on the part of busy bodies to file public interest petitions in courts for the sake of publicity;

(b) whether Justice M. Jagannadha Rao Commission has also termed such tendencies as frivolous and vexatious, adding to the already bulging workload of the courts and has sought enactment of a law to prevent filing of such suits; and

(c) whether such a proposed bar would apply to writ petitions filed in High Courts under Article 226 of the Constitution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the Supreme Court and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

Amendments in People's Representation Act

†819. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every Government have been striving hard for the last 20 years to keep the people with criminal backgrounds out of politics, but this could not be done due to some provisions of the People's Representation Act;

(b) if so, whether Government would consider to bring necessary amendments in those sections of the People's Representation Act;

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when such amendments are likely to be made; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) The Law Commission of India in its 170th Report on "Reform of the Electoral Laws", has, *inter alia,* considered the aspect of criminalisation

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.